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MAR 2 2007

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February 26, 2007

YOUR REF: SLA1347

OUR REF: SU102/358/EP

SHARP REF: 04R00067/EP

Re: Partial European Search Report

of European Patent Application No. 04023233.2

based on U.S. Patent Application No. 10/676,312

Dear Sirs,

Concerning the above-identified EP application, we enclose a copy of a partial European Search Report issued on February 16, 2007, References and EP Attorney's letter of February 21, 2007.

PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THIS LETTER BY FACSIMILE.

Very truly yours,

NAGISA PATENT OFFICE

Miyoko Saito
for Akichika TAKANO

Telefax : 9 Pages

Original follows via mail

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European Patent Application No. 04 023 233.2
SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA
Your Ref.: SU102/358EP
Our File: 56269



21.02.2007
Mü/Ko/gu

Dear Mr. Takano,

Please find enclosed duplicate copies of an EPO Communication dated February 16, 2007 transmitting the **Partial** European Search Report under Rule 46(1) EPC.

We further enclose a LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION Statement of the EPO indicating that the EPO Search Division considers that the application relates to **nine groups of inventions**, namely:

- a first invention referring to claims 1 to 37, 45 to 46 and 47 to 54;
- a second invention referring to claims 38 to 44;
- a third invention referring to claims 55 to 60, 61 to 63, 106 to 107 and 108 to 109;
- a fourth invention referring to claims 64 to 66 and 104 to 105;
- a fifth invention referring to claims 67 to 75, 76 to 78 and 102 to 103;
- a sixth invention referring to claims 79 to 87;
- a seventh invention referring to claims 88 to 91;
- an eighth invention referring to claims 92 to 93, 94 to 95 and 96 to 101; and
- a ninth invention referring to claims 110 to 111 and 112 to 113.

We further enclose a Patent Family Members List as well as two copies of each prior art document considered to be relevant by the Search Examiner. The documents have been evaluated for category "X".

In the enclosed EPO Communication, you will find the invitation to the Applicant to pay **eight** further search fees with respect to the above mentioned inventions.

As you might know, the non-payment of an additional search fee has no direct consequences at this time. However, if at a later time during examination the Primary Examiner should confirm the Lack of Unity of Invention Statement of the Search Examiner, it will no longer be possible to combine the claims of the further inventions with any of the claims of the first invention.

Of course, also at that time during examination it will be possible to argue in respect of unity of invention and/or to file one or several divisional applications.

The EPO has fixed a period of only one month for deciding whether or not an additional search fee should be paid. This period ends on

March 16, 2007.

If we do **not** receive any instructions from you at the latest by

March 9, 2007.

we will assume that no further additional search fee should be paid.

Please confirm safe receipt of this telefax letter.

Very truly yours,



Dieter Kottmann

Enclosures

2 x EPO Communication of February 16, 2007 with

- EPO Partial Search Report
- LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION Statement
- Abstract
- Patent Family Members List
- Prior Art Documents (by mail only)

1 x General Information

GENERAL INFORMATION with Respect to EPO/DE-PTO
Search Reports/Examination Reports

Prior art documents cited and enclosed with the Search Report/Examination Report of the European Patent Office (EPO) or German Patent and Trademark Office (DE-PTO) are sometimes incomplete or of poor quality. We transfer those documents to you as we receive them.

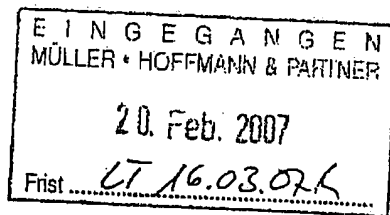
If you should realize missing parts of such documents, please inform us. However, please note that after filing a request with the EPO or the DE-PTO for sending us the complete or corrected documents, it takes several weeks until we receive an answer.

In special or urgent cases we can offer to order the missing parts of such documents for you via our own copy services in the EPO or DE-PTO, respectively. However, this will regularly cause extra cost.

MÜLLER · HOFFMANN & PARTNER



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Date

16.02.07

Reference 56269 Mü/rs	Application No./Patent No. 04023233.2 - 1228
Applicant/Proprietor SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA	

Communication

The European Patent Office herewith transmits the partial European search report under Rule 46(1) EPC relating to the above-mentioned European patent application.

Copies of the documents cited in the search report are enclosed.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the following:

The Search Division informs the applicant that if the European search report is also to cover inventions other than the invention first mentioned in the claims, a further search fee must be paid for each of these inventions, within one month after notification of this communication.

For applications with a filing date up to 30 June 1999, the amount payable for a search fee requested under Rule 46(1) EPC is EUR 869,- (OJ EPO 2006, 495).

For applications with a filing date between 1 July 1999 and 30 June 2005, the amount payable for a search fee requested under Rule 46(1) EPC is EUR 690,- (OJ EPO 2006, 495).

- ☒ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to the present communication.
- ☒ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

Note to users of the automatic debiting procedure:

Unless the EPO receives prior instructions to the contrary, the search fee(s) will be debited on the last day of the period for payment. For further details see the Arrangements for the automatic debiting procedure, Supplement No.2 to Official Journal No.01/2005.



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	NAKANO D ET AL: "FAST RESPONSE IPS-LCD USING FEED-BACKWARD OVERDRIVE TECHNOLOGY" IDW. PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL DISPLAY WORKSHOPS, XX, XX, 4 December 2002 (2002-12-04), pages 211-214, XP009049491 * page 212, last paragraph - page 213, paragraph 3; figure 2b *	1-37, 45-54	INV. G09G3/36
X	KOBAYASHI H ET AL: "Feedback level adaptive overdrive technology applicable to digital hd lc-tvs" IDW. PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL DISPLAY WORKSHOPS, XX, XX, 4 December 2002 (2002-12-04), pages 323-326, XP009049492 * page 324, left-hand column; figure 2 *	1-37, 45-54	
X	US 2003/058264 A1 (TAKAKO ADACHI [JP] ET AL) 27 March 2003 (2003-03-27) * paragraphs [0107] - [0116]; figure 4b *	1-37, 45-54	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) G09G

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

The present partial European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims.

Place of search The Hague	Date of completion of the search 7 February 2007	Examiner Amian, Dirk
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CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X: particularly relevant if taken alone
Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category
A: technological background
O: non-written disclosure
P: intermediate document

T : theory or principle underlying the invention
E : earlier patent document, but published on, or
after the filing date
D : document cited in the application
L : document cited for other reasons

& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-37, 45-46, 47-54

feedback overdrive using predicted displayed luminance value

2. claims: 38-44

feedback overdrive using previous capacitance value

3. claims: 55-60, 61-63, 106-107, 108-109

overdriving based on plural images using a non-recursive
circuit

4. claims: 64-66, 104-105

overdriving based on luminance value yet to be displayed

5. claims: 67-75, 76-78, 102-103

overdriving in dependence of image content or image
information

6. claims: 79-87

overdriving using two lookup-tables of different size and
dimensions

7. claims: 88-91

overdriving using two functions of different order

8. claims: 92-93, 94-95, 96-101

content of buffer modified in dependence of the fact whether
a pixel was overdriven or not

9. claims: 110-111, 112-113

overdriving using voltages higher/lower than maximum/minimum
gray scale

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 04 02 3233

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

07-02-2007

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2003058264 A1	27-03-2003	JP 2003172915 A	20-06-2003
		KR 20030027738 A	07-04-2003



ABSTRACT / ZUSAMMENFASSUNG / ABREGE

04023233.2

Processing of images for displaying images on a liquid crystal display with improved luminance.

Bitte beachten Sie, dass angeführte Nichtpatentliteratur (wie z. B. wissenschaftliche oder technische Dokumente) je nach geltendem Recht dem Urheberrechtsschutz und/oder anderen Schutzarten für schriftliche Werke unterliegen könnte. Die Vervielfältigung urheberrechtlich geschützter Texte, ihre Verwendung in anderen elektronischen oder gedruckten Publikationen und ihre Weitergabe an Dritte ist ohne ausdrückliche Zustimmung des Rechtsinhabers nicht gestattet.

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